

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 06032 221938Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6996
INFO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PORC, OAU, FR, LY
SUBJ: FRANCE-LIBYA: FOREIGN MINISTER REACTS TO QADHAFI'S
CALL FOR DECOLONIZATION MF REUNION ISLAND

REF: TRIPOLI 26

1. FOREIGN MINISTER DE GUIRINGAUD USED THE OCCASION OF
A LUNCHEON OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB TO CRITICIZE
QADHAFI'S CALL FOR THE DECOLONIZATION OF REUNION ISLAND
(REPRESENTED IN THE FRENCH PARLIAMENT BY THREE DEPUTIES,
ONE OF WHOM IS FORMER PRIME MINISTER MICHEL DEBRE).
HE IS QUOTED AS SAYING "IT IS INADMISSIBLE TO SPEAK OF
THE DECOLONIZATION OF REUNION. WE WILL SEE WHAT
MEASURES WE CAN TAKE IN REGARD TO LIBYA. THE ISLAND
WAS EMPTY WHEN THE FRENCH ARRIVED AND WE DO NOT ACCEPT
THAT A CHIEF OF STATE, BE HE FRIENDLY, SPEAK OF DECOL-
ONIZATION."

2. MOST PAPERS REPORT THE GUIRINGAUD REMARKS IN LOW-
KEY FASHION BUT ONE, THE INDEPENDENT QUOTIDIEN DE
PARIS, PICKING UP THE IMPLIED THREAT OF REPRISAL--
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USES THEM AS POINT OF DEPARTURE FOR A FRONT PAGE COM-
MENTARY ON WHAT A BAD CLIENT LIBYA IS. EXCERPT: "WHEN
HAS ONE EVER SEEN A COUNTRY CRITICIZE WHEN IT PLEASES
AT THE LEAST OCCASION ITS ARMS SUPPLIER AND SPIT IN THE
SOUP WITH SUCH IMPERTINANCE. THE MORE ONE DELIVERS
MIRAGES TO TRIPOLI AND TRAINS LIBYAN PILOTS IN FRANCE,
THE MORE QADHAFI ATTACKS FRENCH POLICIES..."

HARTMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
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